Dear Parents and Children,

“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead” (1 Peter 1:3).

Christian hope is Easter hope. And it is different to the hope we normally encounter in the world today. It is not based on individual circumstances and prospects; it comes through Jesus’ resurrection, and is therefore independent of those things. It is therefore a living hope. It has a life of its own that can endure even the worst experiences of life in this world. It is grounded in what God has done in raising Jesus from the dead. It is hope that is totally contingent on a particular event. And because that event has happened our hope is secure. Not wishful-thinking hope, but guaranteed hope.

Pope Francis in his Easter message said, "Christ is hope and comfort to the Christian communities suffering most for their faith on account of discrimination and persecution ... is close to all human situations of suffering and injustice". He specifically mentioned the Christian communities of Syria, those of Kenya, and Christian minorities throughout the world.

The Pope asked Jesus, as “the Victor over death, to lighten the sufferings of our many brothers and sisters who are persecuted for his name, and of all those who suffer injustice as a result of ongoing conflicts.” Pope Francis appealed for all those suffering: “the marginalized, the imprisoned, the poor and the migrants who are so often rejected, maltreated and discarded, the sick and the suffering, children, especially those who are victims of violence.”

As Easter people we are people of hope and our hope is found in Jesus Christ. And as hope-filled Easter people we are asked to bring hope to those most in need of hope through our prayers and ongoing support. Let us not forget our brothers and sisters in Syria and especially those forced to become refugees who carry little with them but their strong faith in God their father.

Learning this week.....

We believe that an integral part of the children’s learning should be their engagement with the wider community where possible. The upcoming commemorations to mark the 100th Anniversary of the Gallipoli landings have provided our children with an opportunity to explore local history, to engage with community groups, to participate with other schools and, through these experiences to learn about identity and nationhood. Our Year Five students have been working on a project developed by our local RSL which involved researching original ANZACs who came from the Essendon area.

The students then participated in a school’s service on Wednesday at the RSL. To further their knowledge and understandings the children visited the Shrine of Remembrance today and a WW1 exhibition at Acme. Our Year Six leaders will be attending and participating in the annual school’s service at the Shrine next Thursday morning where they will join with students from across Victoria. The following pieces of writing are some reflections from Y
EAST KEILOR RSL ANZAC SERVICE

On Wednesday the Grade 5’s were invited to attend an ANZAC service at the East Keilor RSL. Before we attended this service we conducted an inquiry into some of the local ANZAC’s that fought for our country. We each received an ANZAC that lived in the areas of Moonee Ponds and Essendon. After we spent time researching, we all made small wooden crosses to remember the soldiers who fought for us, so we could have a better future.

During the service we placed the wooden crosses in the garden beds that had been created at the war memorial across the road from the RSL. Our Grade 5 class captains laid down wreathes of flowers as a part of the service. This was an amazing experience for the Grade 5’s to learn about the people who fought for our country and to introduce our new inquiry, ‘Who We Are’.

As I participated in the ANZAC service I imagined ANZAC scenes in my mind when we had a moment to think quietly and reflect. I liked how they shared a few poems and memories from the war. I heard a man play the trumpet, the Last Post, I felt the touch of an ANZAC soldier while he played. Before the service ended, we put crosses in 3 different garden beds to remember local soldiers who fought in the war.- Jamie Rendelmann

Keilor RSL held an amazing and memorable ANZAC service for the Grade 5 students. When the sounds of the trumpet floated through the air, I stopped for a moment and paused. Thoughts were buzzing in my head about brave soldiers who fought in the war. It was a special time to remember those who fought for our country. They spoke proudly about how Australian men and women sacrificed their lives so we could live in a nation free from war. They talked about their courage and bravery when they set foot in Gallipoli. Crosses were made in memory of local soldiers and placed in garden beds as a memorial for those soldiers. To end the service we all sang the Australian National anthem proudly . By Meg Singleton

A reminder that next Friday is a school closure day. All staff will be attending a professional learning day focussing on Mathematics.

Learning Conferences are being held on the Tuesday and Wednesday of Week Three. Children will be dismissed at 1:30 pm on Tuesday, 28th April and Wednesday, 29th April.

Peace and all good

Anne Doherty.

TERM 2 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Fri 24th April</td>
<td>SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY-MATHS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Tue 28th April</td>
<td>Learning Conferences 2.00-7.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wed 29th April</td>
<td>Learning Conferences 2.00-7.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Thurs 7th May</td>
<td>Confirmation Parent Evening .7.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Tue 12th May</td>
<td>NAPLAN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wed 13th May</td>
<td>NAPLAN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Thurs 14th May</td>
<td>NAPLAN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sat 16th May</td>
<td>Eucharist Parent Evening 7.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sun 16th May</td>
<td>Eucharist Presentation Mass 10.00am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Tue 19th May</td>
<td>Parent Workshop Anxiety Solutions 7.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sat 23rd May</td>
<td>Confirmation Presentation Mass 5.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sun 24th May</td>
<td>Confirmation Presentation Mass 10.00am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Sun 7th June</td>
<td>First Eucharist Mass 12.00pm—3CM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3.00pm—3M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Fri 12th June</td>
<td>Confirmation 5.30pm—6KS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7.30pm—6M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Fri 26th June</td>
<td>End of Term—Children Finish 1.30pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

P & F Meetings

Below are the Our Lady of the Nativity School Parents and Friends meeting dates for 2015:

- Monday 27 April 7.30pm
- Monday 1st June 7.30pm
- Monday 20th July 7.30pm
- Monday 17th August 7.30pm
- Monday 12th September 7.30pm
- Monday 19th October 7.30pm
- Monday 16th November AGM

Meetings commence at 7:30pm and are held in the school staff room. All are welcome!

ST BERNARDS COLLEGE TOUR DATES

Tours of the college for 2015 are as follows:

- Monday 15th June.
- Tuesday 19th May, 2nd June, 21st July
- Wednesday 6th May, 27th May,
  3rd June, 10th June, 22nd July, 29th July
- Thursday 30th April,

Each Tour commences at 9.00am. Bookings Essential
For further information contact the Registrar on 9289 1103
Dear Parents,

Welcome back to Term 2 and we hope that you all enjoyed a restful and relaxing holidays! We have spent most of this week moving back into our routines and preparing for another exciting term! I would like to take this opportunity to let you all know that one of our regular staff members, Jarrod, is leaving us to go travelling in America. We wish him a safe and wonderful holiday and look forward to him hopefully returning to us later in the year.

Kind Regards,
Holly and Team.

Program for the Week:
Monday 20.4.2015: Warm Toasties!
Tuesday 21.4.2015: Colouring-In Competition.
Wednesday 22.4.2015: Block Soccer.
Thursday 23.4.2015: Nature Pictures.
Friday 24.4.2015: DVD Afternoon.

The Primary Years Program (PYP)

As you are aware, we are in the process of seeking authorisation to become the first Catholic primary school in Australia to be permitted to deliver the International Baccalaureate’s Primary Years Program.

Over 12 months ago, we were appointed a consultant, Brenda Millican, from Somerset College on the Gold Coast. Brenda is the current PYP Coordinator and Deputy Head there. Her role working with us has been to ensure that we are progressing toward authorisation. This has been through phone calls, document sharing etc.

On Monday and Tuesday of this week, Brenda came down to meet us to triangulate some findings. She was seeking to see how our knowledge of curriculum was: recorded, taught and expressed. Brenda went through all of our documentation and provided some really insightful and helpful feedback on how to continue to improve. She observed every class in the school, including all specialist classes. Brenda’s overall impression was that we are well on track in this capacity.

The expressed side of things Brenda met with almost every staff member, a group of parents and some students. She was able to pick up a feel that we are making great progress and that there is a sense of connectedness and consistency across the different areas of the community.

A big thank you to all the teachers, students and parents who gave up their time to meet with Brenda and help ensure that our great school becomes even greater still.

Grant Lewis

Parents who aren’t scared of contact (as in the sticky-back paper contact!!!). If you would like to cover some new library books please let me know. I can send books home in bags of 10 with contact cut and ready to go.

Thanks in anticipation
Mrs Whelan

Mowing Roster

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Area 1-</th>
<th>Area 2-</th>
<th>Area 3-</th>
<th>Area 4-</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Presbytery</td>
<td>Church</td>
<td>School</td>
<td>Car Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Family</td>
<td>Grade</td>
<td>Family</td>
<td>Grade</td>
<td>Family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TWO</td>
<td>2-May-15</td>
<td>Papac 4</td>
<td>Graham 5</td>
<td>Alcantara 6</td>
<td>O’Neill 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TWO</td>
<td>23-May-15</td>
<td>Brooks 5</td>
<td>Anderson (Ryan) 3</td>
<td>Portelli 5</td>
<td>Singleton 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TWO</td>
<td>6-Jun-15</td>
<td>Cardinale 4</td>
<td>Ryan (Tia) 4</td>
<td>Carrick 4</td>
<td>Mollica 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TWO</td>
<td>20-Jun-15</td>
<td>Hughes 3</td>
<td>Schembri 3</td>
<td>Nesci 3</td>
<td>Lewis 2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Family Support Group would like to announce that with the support of our amazing community we were able to raise $1665.55 on Saint Patrick’s Day.

We would also like to announce that the winner of the Family Support Group Identity Design competition is Tara Ganci from 3M. Tara’s design will be shown to everyone at next week’s assembly.
## Parish News

### Church Welcoming Family - Roster

**Where:**
Our Lady of Nativity Church

**When:**
Saturday Night

**Time:**
5.30pm

**What to Do:**
Father would like the rostered family to arrive about 15 mins before mass commences to hand out the mass bulletins and song books to all the parishioners as they enter the Church, and to say "Welcome to Mass" with a lovely smile. Your children can also get involved. The Mass bulletins will be available in the church when you get there. If you can’t do your rotation, please arrange to swap with another family.

All families are welcome to join us in Church.

**Any questions:**
Lynette Xerri - 0408 573 045 / Lynettexerri@nbnco.com.au

**Date:**
- Saturday, 18 April
- Saturday, 25 April
- Saturday, 2 May
- Saturday, 9 May

**Family to assist:**
- Kerr Family (Kylie & Gavin)
- Nealon Family (Christina & Connor)
- Polizzi & Cutajar Family (Tatiana & Brian)
- Fox Family (Louise & Greg)

---

### Church Welcoming Family - Roster

**Where:**
Our Lady of Nativity Church

**When:**
Sunday Morning

**Time:**
10am

**What to Do:**
Father would like the rostered family to arrive about 15 mins before mass commences to hand out the mass bulletins and song books to all the parishioners as they enter the Church, and to say "Welcome to Mass" with a lovely smile. Your children can also get involved. The Mass bulletins will be available in the church when you get there. If you can’t do your rotation, please arrange to swap with another family.

All families are welcome to join us in Church.

**Any questions:**
Lynette Xerri - 0408 573 045 / Lynettexerri@nbnco.com.au

**Date:**
- Sunday, 19 April
- Sunday, 26 April
- Sunday, 3 May
- Sunday, 10 May

**Family to assist:**
- Asher Family (Leanne & Wayne)
- Xerri Family (Lynette & Daniel)
- Ferrali Family (Laura & Simon)
- Zammit Family (Nancy & Sandro)